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CEIRIOG RURAL DISTRICT

COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

Charles E. Salt, J.P., M.B., Ch.B. (Chirk District)

Ian G.M. Firth, M.B., Ch.B., (Llansilin District)

including

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR & SURVEYOR

R.W. AUBREY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

for the

YEAR ENDED THE 31st DECEMBER 1943.



1884-1885

1886-1887

1888-1889

1890-1891

1892-1893

1894-1895

1896

1897-1898

1899

1900-1901

1902

# CEIRIOG RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,

CHIRK,  
Wrexham.

25th August 1944.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

This year has seen the commencement of a considerable amount of activity in the preliminary preparation of schemes for post war works and at the outset we wish to congratulate the Council on the courageous and long term policies which it has adopted in formulating the programme of works and we trust that we may soon see the fulfillment of this programme.

## Infectious Diseases

The only outbreak of infectious disease of note has been that of measles of which there was an epidemic in Chirk and the Ceiriog Valley during the summer months.

It will be noted that there has been an increase of the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year which is partly accounted for by the fact that three of these have been notified on discharge from H.M. Forces.

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious diseases notified.

Scarlet Fever	5
Measles	120
Pul.Tuberculosis	7 (5 male 2 female)

<u>Tuberculosis</u>		Cases at 31.12.42	New Cases during 1943	Cases at 31.12.43
Pulmonary	Males	28	5	33
"	Females	26	2	28
Non "	Males	13	Nil.	13
	Females	10	Nil.	10

## Vital Statistics

Live Births.		Total	M.	F.
Legitimate		127	69	58
Illegitimate		9	4	5
		136	73	63
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population				19.5
Whole country				16.5

## Still Births.

Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	1	nil	1

4	2	2	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			28.6
Rate per 1,000 of population			.57
Whole country			.51



Deaths of infants under one year.	Male	Female
Legitimate	1	1
Illegitimate	0	0
Death rate per 1,000 births	7.3	
Whole country	49.0	

Deaths	Male	44
	Female	28

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Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population	10.3
Whole country	12.1

No deaths are reported either in or as in consequence of childbirth.

#### Causes of Deaths

Other forms of Tuberculosis	1
Cancer of stomach & Duodenum	1
Cancer of breast	1
Cancer of all other sites	4
Diabetes	1
Intra. cran. vasc. lesions	15
Heart disease	24
Bronchitis	2
Pneumonia	5
Ulcer of stomach & Duodenum	2
Other respiratory diseases	1
Other digestive diseases	2
Appendicitis	1
Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	1
Road traffic accident	2
Suicide	1
Other violent causes	4
All other causes	4

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-It will be seen from the foregoing tables the birth rate is the highest (19.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population) yet recorded for this district.

The death rate (10.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population) shows a formidable reduction from last year and is well below the average for the whole country (12.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population).

#### Diphtheria Immunisation

This excellent work has shown further progress during the year, and the following figures give the position at the 31.12.43.

	Age Group 1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 15 yrs.	Total
Estimate of population	410	1,118	1,528
Total no. immunised during 1943			
(a) By Ceirlog R.D.C.	23	42	64
(b) " County Council	61	50	110





Diphtheria continued

1 to 5 yrs. 5 to 15 yrs. Total

Total number immunised to date	405	1,073	1478
Percentage of children immunised	98.8%	96.6%	96.7%

In arriving at the above figures allowance has been made for those children who have passed from one age group to another and children immunised in school who have passed the age of 15 years have been removed from the records.

Milk & Dairies Order 1926

The national need for liquid milk has resulted in a further increase of 53 producers on the register of the Council during the year.

The Milk Advisory Scheme of the Ministry of Agricultural & Fisheries is in full operation in respect of both wholesale and retail producers, samples being tested regularly for keeping qualities. The results of the tests are communicated to producers at quarterly intervals and the majority of producers appear to be taking a very keen interest in the scheme. The most practical evidence of the interest taken in the scheme is reflected in the increased use of milk coolers, as lack of cooling appears to be one of the chief causes of poor keeping quality.

A survey was made as to the position of the water supplies in the farms producing milk the result of which are shown below.

District	No. of Registered Premises	No. with water laid on to Cowsheds	No. where water only possible by pumping.	No. where not practicable to provide water.
Chirk	23	12	3	7
Ceiriog Valley	115	29	5	-
Llansilin and Llanrhadr	142	15	36	6
	280	56	44	6

The above figures leave a total of 174 premises to which water might be laid at a reasonable cost. Of this number approximately 25% already have water available for the operation of milk coolers, although in a few cases it is not possible to use the coolers throughout the whole year because of shortage of water.

The attention of many farmers has been drawn to the Ministry of Agriculture scheme of grants for water supplies to farm buildings, and to my knowledge application has been made by five farmers for this grant. In addition at least three farmers have materials available for laying on water and have not been able to obtain labour for fixing.

There has been a marked improvement in the structural conditions of cowsheds and general cleanliness during the last few years.

The National Milk Testing Scheme is now in operation throughout the whole of the district, and I have received a list of the unsatisfactory results for the last three months which are set out below, with the number for each Sanitary district given in relation to the water supply at the farms.

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District	Unsatisfactory Samples		No. of water in cowshed	No. with milk colled by dooler
	Wholesale	Retail		
CHIRK	3	1	1	2
Glyn Valley	45	2	6	9
Llansilin and Llanrhaiadr	59	-	2	12
	107	3	9	23

From the above it will be seen a very small percenatge of farms with water laid on and with adequate cooling facilities have produced unsatisfactory results.

Samples of wholesale producers are tested regularly, twice monthly, and of the 107 unsatisfactory only 6 producers have produced milk which has been graded as unsatisfactory on two occasions. In this category there was only one retail producer.

No. regitered at 31.12.1942	Wholesale	Retail	Total
No. registered at 31.12.1942	187	54	241
" removed during 1943	9	3	12
" added " "	35	2	37
Totals at 31st. December 1943	213	53	266

Included in the above figures are 17 Producers of Accredited Milk  
4 " " Tuberculin Tested Milk.

#### Government Evacuation Scheme

Due to the lack of enemy action on Merseyside the steady drift of return of evacuees has continued throughout the year under review and the welfare of those evacuees still remaining in the district continues to be undertaken by the Welfare Workers.

The number of evacuees in the district at the 31.12.43 is shown below in comparision with the previous year.

	In district 31.12.42	In district 31.12.43
Mothers & Children	38	16
School children	117	61
Teachers, aged etc.,	23	10
Totals	178	87

#### Housing Repairs

Apart from ordinary repairs there is little to report under this heading. The prices are, of course, particularly high and there is some difficulty in obtaining certain materials.

No. of houses	Total rent income			To credit repairs a/c			To debit Repairs a c			Average cost per house.		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
243	4069	8	8	809	4	4	603	7	3	2	9	8

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### Water Supplies

There has been no general shortage of water during the year and all water supply schemes have been well maintained.

There has been some further difficulties of distribution connected with Chirk Water Supply, the area of Upper Chirk Green, Top Barracks and black Colliery being without a sufficient supply of water at all times. This matter was the subject of a special report dated 22.11.43 as a result of which it was decided to install an automatic boosting plant to increase the pressure in these area. At the time of writing this plant has not been delivered.

Samples of water have been taken from all schemes owned by the Council on three occasions and with the exception of the Garth Scheme all have been satisfactory. The pollution of this scheme is receiving attention and an arrangement has been made with the owner of the adjoining property for the prevention of pollution from same.

There has been difficulty in connection with the Llangedwyn C.of E. school water supply and investigations have shown this supply unsatisfactory both as regards quantity and the matter has been taken up with the local managers of the school.

### Scavenging

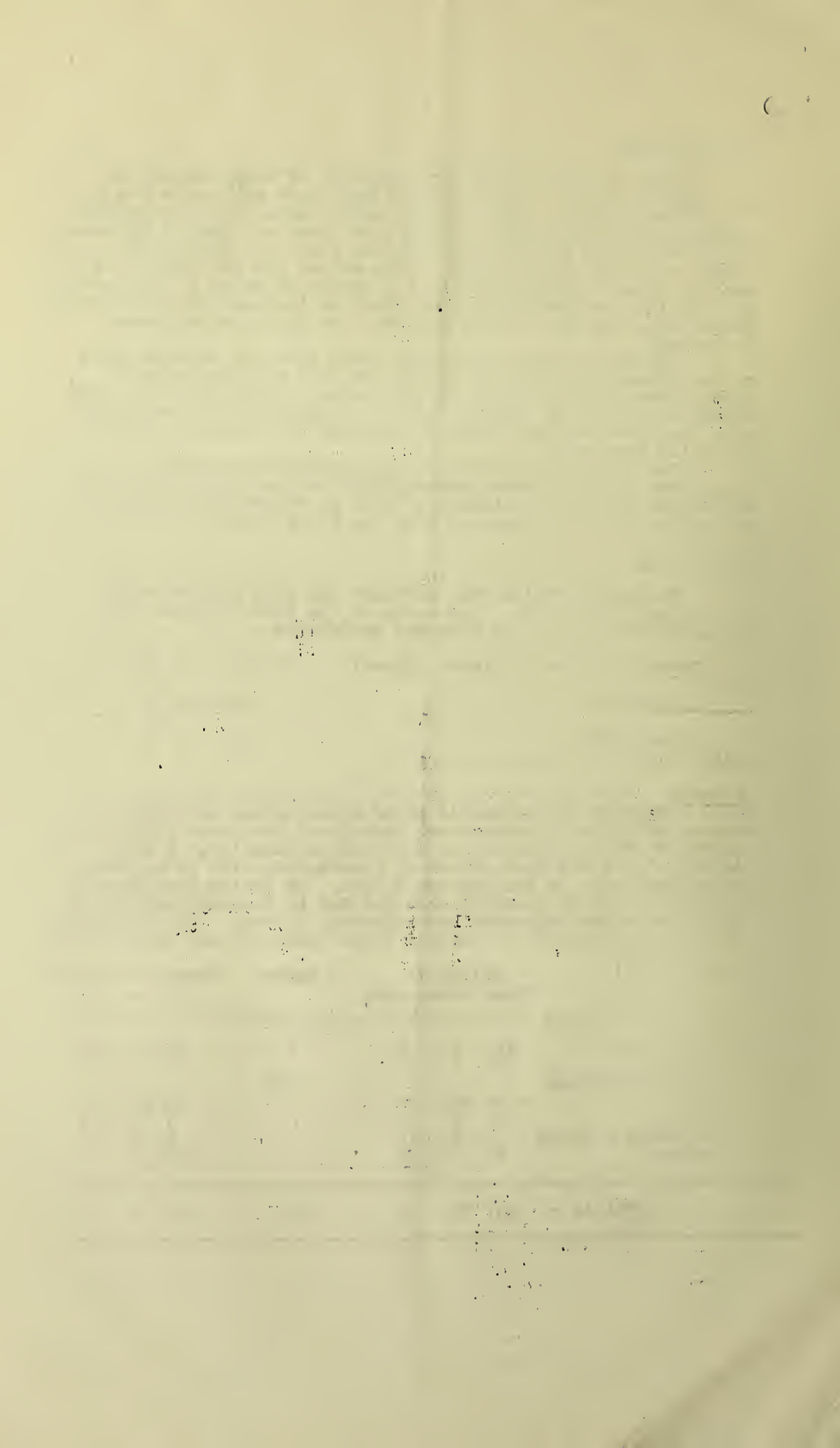
The scavenging of the district has been well carried out during the period. The costs of the direct labour and contract schemes for the year are as follows -

Regional Scheme (direct labour)	£ 692. 4. 1.
Llansilin	67. 10. 0
Llanrhafadr	56. 3. 0

### Salvage

Salvage has proceeded along normal lines although in common with general experience throughout the country materials salvaged show a considerable decrease in quantity. A new salvage depot has been opened at Llanrhafadr with Mr G. Jones, Leicester House as the Salvage Warden. Dr Davies continues to collect salvage at Llansilin and deliver to Oswestry and during the year he has collected approximately 3 tons. The following shows the quantities of various items collected and disposed of -

Material	Weight Tons, cwts, qrs.	Number	Proceeds of sale £. s. d.
Waste Paper	17, 3 1		76, 4. 11.
Bones	4 7 2		21 0 0
Bottles and Jars		452	
Pags	2 12 0		27 10 0
Tins	2 7 0		3 0 0
Old boots & shoes	4 4 1		1 5 2
Rubber	7 5 0		15 0 0
Totals -	33 19 0	452	£ 145 2 1



### Summary Inspection of the Area

The following shows the number of inspections carried out during the year.

Houses	117
" re-visited	225
Water Works	257
Sewage Works	103
Milk & Dairies Order	138
Nuisances	50
" re- visited	41
Complaints	333
Infectious Diseases	8
No. of roads disinfected	16
Various inspections	317

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Total No. of inspections 1289

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### Plans of New Buildings

Plans of the following have been submitted for the approval of the Council -

<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Not approved</u>	<u>Carried Out</u>
Addition to building 2	2	-	2

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### Houses for Agricultural Workers

Under the government scheme for the erection of 3,000 houses for agricultural workers throughout the country we received an allocation of eight houses which are being erected - two at Chirk, two at Pontfadog, two at Llansilin and two at Llanrhadr. The houses being erected are of the parlour type with adequate outbuildings and are a marked improvement in conveniences to any house previously erected by the Council.

### Post War Works

Housing - The Council has been very active in the selection of sites for the erection of houses during the post war period and under a national scheme for the allocation of building programmes made by the government the Council has received an allocation of eighty four houses for erection during the first year after the war.

The Council has either secured or in negotiation for the purchase of the following sites for the erection of houses.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Approximate Area (acres)</u>	<u>Estimated No, of houses</u>
Chirk	9.826	80
Pontfadog	1.25	12
Tregeiriog	1.00	8
Llanarmon D.C.	1.00	8
Llansilin	3.25	20
Llanrhadr Y.M.	3.00	20
	<hr/> 19.326	<hr/> 148



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In addition to the above the provision of housing site at Pandy and Glynceiriog is receiving consideration,

Sewerage.

It is encouraging to note that the Council is active in this matter and that a provisional scheme has been drawn up for the sewerage and sewage disposal at all Villages in the area and that the scheme for the extension of sewers at Chirk from Rhosywaen to Bronywaen has again been presented to the Welsh Board of Health for approval.

It is an urgent matter that the preparation of schemes of sewerage and sewage Disposal should be undertaken at an early date.

In conclusion may we express our sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Council and our fellow officials for co-operation during another happy year of office.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

CHARLES E. SALT.

IAN G.M. FIRTH.

Medical Officers of Health.

